UNITED
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General Assembly

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A/C.2/51/L.9
30 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97 (b)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: SPECIAL SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN OVERALL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene, not later than 1997, a special session, for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, 1/ not later than 1997, for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,

Reaffirming its resolution 50/113 of 20 December 1995, as the agreed basis that determines the modalities for the preparations for the special session, including the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development as the functional commission of the Economic and Social Council mandated to follow-up

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and Corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as the role of other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system,

Strongly reaffirming that the special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 will be undertaken on the basis of and in full respect of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 2/ in particular principle 7 on the common but differentiated responsibilities of States,

Taking note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the 1997 special session, 3/ and taking into account the views and concerns expressed by delegations to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996 and to the Second Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-first session,

Stressing that there should be no attempt to renegotiate Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, 4/ or other intergovernmental agreements in the field of sustainable development, but that discussion should concentrate on commitments and the further implementation of Agenda 21 and related post-Conference outcomes.

1. Decides to convene the special session envisaged in General Assembly resolutions 47/190 of 22 December 1992 and 50/113 of 20 December 1995 for a duration of one week, from 23 to 27 June 1997, at the highest possible level of participation;

2. Decides also that the Commission on Sustainable Development will devote the forthcoming meeting of its ad hoc open-ended inter-sessional working group to be held from 24 February to 7 March 1997, to preparing for the special session, and that the Commission will devote its fifth session, to be held from 7 to 25 April 1997, as a negotiating meeting, to final preparations for the special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21;

3. Calls upon the international community to engage the full participation of high-level scientific and technical experts, consistent with the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, both in preparatory meetings and at the special session itself;

4. Requests the Secretariat to provide, not later than 15 January 1997, all relevant reports called for in General Assembly resolution 50/113, including

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2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ..., resolution 1, annex I.

3/ A/51/420.

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ..., resolution 1, annex III.

all other reports related to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, for consideration by the ad hoc open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Sustainable Development and by the Commission at its fifth session;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that preparations for the comprehensive report are conducted in accordance with paragraph 13 of Assembly resolution 50/113;

6. Also requests:

(a) That other contributing reports/inputs to the special session incorporate, without prejudice, information on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States 5/ and the global freshwater assessment and from the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Global Environmental Facility and other bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and information on relevant United Nations conventions dealing with the environment, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer 6/ and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, 7/ on regional and inter-sessional meetings organized by countries and on activities organized by major groups, including business and industry, and non-governmental organizations;

(b) That, in the context of the special session, specific modalities be recommended for examining all outstanding chapters of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and for undertaking the full review of the Programme of Action in 1999;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General, in his report for the special session on cross-sectoral issues of Agenda 21, to give special consideration to poverty, financial resources and mechanisms, education, science, the transfer of technology, production and consumption patterns, and trade and environment, with respect to the importance of sectoral issues;

8. Welcomes the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul from 3 to 14 June 1996, and its relevance to the field of sustainable development, calls for effective

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5/ Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. 94.I.18 and Corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

6/ International Legal Materials, vol. 26 (1987), p. 1516.

7/ International Legal Materials, vol. 26, No. 6 (November 1987), p. 1550.

interaction and exchange of information on work carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Commission on Human Settlements, and invites the Commission on Human Settlements to make a contribution to the special session in connection with the implementation of the Habitat Agenda 8/ adopted in Istanbul;

9. Recognizes the important contributions made by major groups, including non-governmental organizations, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and in the implementation of its recommendations, and the need for their involvement in preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements for their contributions during the special session;

10. Invites Governments and regional organizations that have not yet done so to submit their national profiles as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 50/113;

11. Also invites Governments to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, in participating fully in the special session and its preparatory process, and to make timely contributions to the Trust Fund for Support of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

12. Further invites Governments to participate in the proposed joint meeting of ministers of finance and ministers responsible for the environment during the high-level segment of the fifth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to enhance the public information programme of the United Nations in order to raise global awareness in a balanced manner, in all countries, of both the special session and the work undertaken by the United Nations in the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and invites all Governments to promote widespread dissemination at all levels of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and to make voluntary contributions to support the public outreach activities of the United Nations for the special session;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the sub-item "Special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-second session a report on the special session.

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8/ A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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A/C.2/51/L.10
28 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97 (a)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

# Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/188 of 22 December 1992, 48/191 of 21 December 1993, 49/234 of 23 December 1994 and 50/112 of 20 December 1995 related to the elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Recalling also the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, 1/

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

1/ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

Recalling further its resolution 50/114 of 20 December 1995, in which it recalled the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development set forth in chapter 12 of Agenda 21, entitled "Managing Fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought",

Noting the ongoing work in preparation of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention undertaken by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction that to date more than fifty countries have already ratified the Convention,

Recalling that, in accordance with article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, 1/ the first session of the Conference of the Parties shall be convened by the interim secretariat of the Convention and shall take place not later than one year after the date of entry into force of the Convention,

Having considered the recommendations and decisions made by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at its eighth and ninth sessions regarding the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, 2/

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/112 of 20 December 1995 3/ and on possible requirements for intergovernmental and secretariat work on the implementation of the Convention and its regional implementation annexes to respond effectively to the needs in the African, Asian and Latin American and the Caribbean regions,

Considering that the Convention is one of the most important achievements in the implementation and follow-up of the recommendations and decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992,

Taking into account the basic provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985;

1. Welcomes the fact that, in conformity with article 36, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,, the Convention will enter into force on 26 December 1996, and calls upon more countries to take appropriate action for the ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Convention;

2. Urges the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries

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2/ See A/51/76 and Add.1.

3/ A/51/510.

Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to continue at its tenth session, to be held from 6 to 17 January 1997 in New York, its plan for the preparatory work for the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

3. Decides to convene, as necessary, before the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in 1997, a further session of the Committee, of up to two weeks' duration, the exact dates and venue of which shall be determined by the Committee at its tenth session;

4. Decides also that the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention shall be held for two weeks in October 1997;

5. Accepts with deep appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Italy to host in Rome, at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

6. Decides to include the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1997-1998;

7. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to continue to promote cooperation and coordination with other relevant organizations and entities, particularly those of the United Nations system, in support of the regional implementation annexes, aimed, inter alia, at facilitating timely financial and technical assistance to affected developing country parties, particularly those in Africa, to enable them to fulfil their commitments under the Convention;

8. Urges all States, the United Nations system, including international financial institutions and all other relevant organizations and actors, to take concrete actions and measures for the full and effective implementation of the provisions of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee resolution 5/1 of 17 June 1994 on urgent action for Africa, 4/ as well as to promote actions for other affected developing countries and regions;

9. Notes the arrangements and contributions made by the Secretary-General and relevant organizations, funds and programmes active in the fields of desertification and/or drought;

10. Takes note with appreciation of previous contributions made and calls for additional contributions to the extrabudgetary funds established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/188 to assist all developing countries affected by desertification and drought, in particular the least developed countries, to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process and in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies;

11. Renews its appeal to Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, as well as to non-governmental

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4/ See A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix III, sect. A.

organizations and the private sector, to continue to make contributions to relevant United Nations bodies, in order to strengthen their capacity to support activities to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought in all affected developing countries and regions, particularly in Africa;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the relevant United Nations programme budget for the interim secretariat of the Convention, to continue to provide support to it until 31 December 1998, and to maintain the above-mentioned extrabudgetary funds;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and relevant institutions;

14. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to it, at its fifty-second session, on the implementation of the present resolution and on any possible implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on its first session;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

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Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 97

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine: draft resolution

# Application of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in international cooperation on the environment

The General Assembly,

Recalling the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1/ in particular, those stating that States have a sovereign right to exploit their own natural resources, pursuant to their environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Recalling also that, in view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities, and standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate or of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries,

Recalling further that one of the goals of international law-making on environment and sustainable development, as contained in Agenda 21, 2/ is to promote and support the effective participation of all countries concerned, in

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

2/ Ibid., annex II.

particular, developing countries, in the negotiation, implementation, review and governance of international agreements or instruments, including the provision of appropriate technical and financial assistance and other available mechanisms for that purpose and the use of differential obligations, where appropriate, and also to promote international standards for the protection of the environment which take into account the different situations and capabilities of countries,

1. Calls upon the international community to apply, where necessary, the principle of common but differentiated responsibility in ongoing international cooperation on the protection of the environment and in efforts to implement existing instruments of international environmental law and the elaboration of new instruments, and to continue to take fully into account specific circumstances and requirements, in particular, those of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, thus facilitating their compliance with their obligations under international agreements;

2. Strongly calls upon the international community to provide assistance and support for effective participation of all concerned countries in the implementation of their commitments in the field of environment and sustainable development, inter alia, through technical and financial assistance and the use of other appropriate mechanisms, including bilateral and regional channels and multilateral institutions and funds;

3. Invites the Secretary-General, in the course of preparations for the special session of the General Assembly, called for the purpose of overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, to submit information on the application of the principles contained in the Rio Declaration and proposals on further measures regarding their full account in international law-making and other forms of cooperation on the environment and development;

4. Invites the General Assembly at its special session in 1997 to consider the issue of the application of the principles in the Rio Declaration in different legal instruments adopted so far, with particular focus on the role played by the United Nations and its bodies, and to suggest recommendations on further development of international law in the field of sustainable development.

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4 November 1996

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Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 95 (a)

SECTORAL POLICY QUESTIONS: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 1/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 2/ and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 3/

Recalling also its resolution 49/108 of 19 December 1994 on industrial development cooperation,

Taking note of the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 and China of 27 September 1996, as well as the communiqué of the

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

1/ General Assembly resolution S-18/3, annex.

2/ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.

3/ General Assembly resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries of 25 September 1996,

Noting the far-reaching implications of the process of globalization, trade liberalization and rapid technological change for the economic prospects of the developing countries,

Reaffirming the renewed urgency for promoting industrialization as an essential element in the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries, as well as in the eradication of poverty and the creation of productive employment,

Stressing the need for enhanced international, regional and subregional cooperation in the field of industrial development and the important role played by the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in this regard,

Recognizing the increasing role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector,

Welcoming the major programme of reform and restructuring undertaken by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to strengthen its role as the central coordinating agency in the United Nations system in the field of industrial development, with a view to enhancing its relevance, impact, cost-effectiveness and efficiency,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 4/

2. Emphasizes the importance of a favourable international and national environment for the industrialization of developing countries and urges all Governments to adopt and implement development policies and strategies that, inter alia, promote enterprise development, productive investments, technological adaptation and innovation, and expanded access to developing country markets in the context of an open, equitable, non-discriminatory, transparent and multilateral rule-based international trading system;

3. Reiterates the importance of technology transfer to the developing countries as the most effective means of international cooperation in the field of industrial development;

4. Urges the developed countries to reverse the present trend of declining official development assistance to enable developing countries to augment and supplement domestic resources for the expansion, diversification and modernization of their industrial productive capacity;

5. Recommends the increasing use of official development assistance as well as new and innovative funding modalities, including, inter alia, co-financing schemes and trust funds, debt-equity swaps and other debt relief

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4/ A/51/340.

measures, industrial joint venture schemes, enterprise-to-enterprise cooperation and venture capital funds for industrial development, particularly in the developing countries;

6. Calls upon the international community and the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to support the efforts of the developing countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves with respect to, among other things, trade in manufactured products, industrial investments and business partnerships, as well as industrial technology and scientific exchanges;

7. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in cooperation with the relevant organizations in the United Nations system, to undertake, in the context of supporting South-South cooperation, an in-depth assessment and analysis of best practices and lessons learned in the field of industrial development, so as to provide practical insights and ideas - such cooperation should better enable developing countries to benefit from each other's successful experiences in the formulation of their industrial policies and strategies - and also requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;

8. Further requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to expand and enhance its interaction with the business community, including the private sector, in assisting the development of the industrial sector in the developing countries, particularly in the field of small and medium-sized enterprise development;

9. Invites Member States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to extend support to the successful implementation of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, launched on 23 October 1996 at Abidjan by Governments of African countries and the private sector, which aims at accelerating the pace of Africa's industrialization through industrial capacity-building and partnerships between Governments of African countries and the private sector at the national, subregional, regional and international levels;

10. Reiterates the importance of cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system in providing effective support to the industrial development of the developing countries, and calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue carrying out its central coordinating role in the field of industrial development to enhance the effectiveness, relevance and development impact of such support;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Agenda item 96 (a)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP TO MAJOR CONSENSUS AGREEMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

# Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993 and 49/92 of 19 December 1994 on the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy,

Aware that the Declaration, the Strategy and the agenda for development are mutually supportive and closely interlinked in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the developing countries,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1. Takes note of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade; 1/

2. Recognizes the need to strengthen the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy in the remaining years of the 1990s to ensure that the decade will indeed be one of accelerated development in the developing countries and strengthened international economic cooperation;

3. Emphasizes the need to identify those commitments and agreements that are not fully implemented and the constraints to implementation, and recognizes, in this context, the need to address, as a matter of priority, the issues of flow of resources, debt, trade and market access for developing countries, and their effective participation in international economic decision-making;

4. Recognizes the need to provide particular support to those least developed countries suffering a deteriorating economic situation;

5. Encourages Member States that have not yet submitted their reports on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration and the Strategy to do so;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a progress report on the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy, with particular emphasis on the relationship of the Declaration and the Strategy and their impact on development trends, and emerging experiences with and consensus on development strategies;

7. Calls for the review and appraisal of the Declaration and the Strategy to be coordinated with the follow-up work of the major United Nations conferences as well as the agenda for development.

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1/ A/51/270.

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6 November 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 94 (d)

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: COMMODITIES

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/200 of 21 December 1990, 47/185 of 22 December 1992, 48/214 of 23 December 1993 and 49/104 of 19 December 1994, and stressing the urgent need to ensure their full implementation,

Recognizing that in many developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, the commodity sector remains the principal source of export revenues and of the creation of employment, income and savings, and the driving force of investments and the reactivation of growth and development,

Concerned about the constant price fluctuations of commodities, and also recognizing the need for a better functioning of commodity markets and the necessity of stable and more predictable commodity prices, including searching for long-term solutions,

Mindful of the need for developing countries, especially African countries and least developed countries, to diversify their economies, in particular the commodity sector, with a view to modernizing their production, distribution and marketing systems, enhancing productivity, and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Also concerned about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes,

1. Welcomes the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the "Midrand Declaration and A Partnership for Growth and Development" 1/ related to the issues of commodities;

2. Recognizes the fundamental responsibility of the developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities for continuing to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and enhance competitiveness;

3. Notes the need expressed by developing countries, in particular the commodity-dependent developing countries, for remunerative, stable and more predictable commodity prices, in the face of persistent instability in the prices of some primary commodities and the general deterioration in the terms of trade;

4. Emphasizes the urgent need to create a more favourable international environment for supportive international policies to improve the functioning of commodity markets through efficient and transparent price formation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges, and through the use of commodity price risk management instruments;

5. Urges developed countries to continue to support the commodity diversification efforts of developing countries, especially African countries, in a spirit of common purpose and efficiency, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification programmes;

6. Reiterates the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development in commodity-dependent developing countries, and in this respect stresses, inter alia, that:

(a) Trade-distorting policies and practices, including tariff and non-tariff escalation and obstacles to competition in the markets of developed countries, have a negative effect on the ability of developing countries to diversify their exports and to undertake the requisite restructuring of their commodity sector;

(b) Expansion of South-South trade in commodities offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

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1/ See TD/377.

(c) In line with Agenda 21 2/ and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 3/ trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive to achieving sustainable development. In that regard, environmental policies and measures with potential trade impact should not be used for protectionist purposes;

(d) The issues related to commodities in the context of sustainable development should be fully taken into account by all overall review and appraisal machinery of the implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(e) There is a need to promote research and development, to provide infrastructure and support services, and to encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

7. Emphasizes the importance for developing countries to process a significant part of their commodities, and in that regard stresses the need for new market opportunities for their processed and semi-processed commodities;

8. Encourages the Common Fund for Commodities, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies, to explore effective ways and means of using the resources of the First Account of the Common Fund to help the commodity-dependent countries, especially the least developed countries, to diversify their commodity sector projects and to promote their commodity market development;

9. Urges producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts to reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance;

10. Requests the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue to provide technical support to the basic food sector of developing countries, in particular net food importing countries, inter alia, in meeting their commitments under the Uruguay Round;

11. Welcomes the technical cooperation activities that will be undertaken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the World Trade Organization and other concerned international organizations in the field of international commodity trade;

12. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report on world commodity trends and prospects, with particular emphasis on commodity-dependent developing countries in the light of

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2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and Corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

3/ Ibid., annex I.

the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

13. Decides to include the question of commodities in the agenda of its fifty-second session.

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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 96 (e)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

# Implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/180 of 22 December 1992, 49/109 of 19 December 1994 and 50/100 of 20 December 1995 on the convening of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

Recognizing the important role of cities and urban areas in economic, political, social and cultural development, and stressing the need to address urgently and comprehensively the deteriorating conditions in rural and urban areas, particularly in developing countries,

Also recognizing the critical problems common to human settlements in the developing countries, including poverty, unemployment, social disintegration, inadequate shelter and lack of proper maintenance of urban and infrastructure and services,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national, regional and international levels for the implementation of measures designed to alleviate the deteriorating living conditions of increasing populations in both urban and rural settlements worldwide,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) 1/ and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to the Conference, including the role played by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, 2/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II); 1/

2. Endorses the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements 3/ and the Habitat Agenda 4/ adopted by the Conference on 14 June 1996;

3. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Turkey for their generous support and for the excellent facilities, staff and services placed at the disposal of the Conference and hospitality extended to the participants;

4. Acknowledges with appreciation the contribution to the successful organization and effective servicing of the Conference made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Conference and their dedicated staff;

5. Also acknowledges with appreciation that the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) provided a major opportunity to synthesize the actions and commitments of previous United Nations conferences and summits;

6. Takes note of the active involvement in the Conference of all States and other relevant actors, and recognizes with satisfaction the innovative mechanisms introduced by the Conference to forge partnerships among various actors;

7. Calls upon all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other actors concerned with human settlements and urban management issues, such as local authorities, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, the private sector, trade unions, academicians and other community groups, to implement, fully and effectively, the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, and to give both instruments the widest possible dissemination;

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1/ A/CONF.165/14.

2/ A/51/384.

3/ A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

4/ Ibid., annex II.

8. Invites all Governments to further encourage and support all relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector, in the implementation and follow-up of the Habitat Agenda by establishing effective partnerships and by creating an appropriate framework, in accordance with their respective national conditions, to further facilitate and expedite such actors in addressing human settlements issues, particularly servicing, finance mobilization, the provision of adequate shelter and related areas;

9. Reaffirms that in formulating human settlements policies and strategies, all countries should simultaneously address the needs of both rural and urban areas;

10. Calls upon all Governments to establish or strengthen, as appropriate, participatory mechanisms for the implementation, assessment, review and follow-up of the Habitat Agenda and national plans of action;

11. Emphasizes the need for all countries and for the international community to promote an integrated and multidimensional approach for the implementation and follow-up of the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda at all levels;

12. Invites all States to enhance their bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation and to take all other appropriate initiatives to contribute to the review and assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and the Habitat Agenda;

13. Reaffirms that the General Assembly, as the highest organ for policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, in exercise of its overall coordination mandate in the economic and social fields in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and the Commission on Human Settlements shall together constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of activities for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

14. Decides that, at its special session to be convened from 23 to 27 June 1997 for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of Agenda 21, the Assembly shall give due attention to the issue of human settlements in the context of sustainable development;

15. Also decides to review, at its fifty-second session, the effectiveness of the steps taken to implement the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

16. Further decides to convene a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including the identification of obstacles, with a view to considering further actions and initiatives, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its fifty-fourth session, in 1999, a report containing recommendations for consideration on the format, scope and organizational aspects of such a special session;

17. Reaffirms that the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with its role under the Charter of the United Nations and its relevant resolutions and decisions, shall oversee system-wide coordination in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and make recommendations in that regard;

18. Invites the Economic and Social Council to review the follow-up of the Habitat Agenda at its substantive session of 1997 and to consider convening meetings of high-level representatives to promote international dialogue on the critical issues pertaining to adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development, as well as on policies for addressing them through international cooperation;

19. Also invites the Economic and Social Council to consider dedicating one of its high-level segments before 2001 to human settlements and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, with the active involvement and participation of, inter alia, the specialized agencies, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

20. Requests the Economic and Social Council to review the mandate of the Commission on Human Settlements, in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227, with a view to strengthening it, taking into account the Commission's responsibilities for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, as well as the synergy with other related United Nations bodies, and the modalities for an effective system-wide approach to the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

21. Also requests the Commission on Human Settlements at its forthcoming session, in 1997, to review both its work programme and that of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in order to ensure an effective follow-up and implementation of the outcome of the Conference, and to make recommendations thereon to the Economic and Social Council;

22. Further requests the Commission on Human Settlements to review its working methods at the same session in order to involve the representatives of local authorities and the relevant actors of civil society, particularly the private sector and non-governmental organizations, in its work in the field of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development, taking into account the relevant provisions of Council resolution 1996/31;

23. Decides that the Commission on Human Settlements, as a standing committee of the Economic and Social Council, will monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the national, regional and international levels;

24. Also decides that, starting from 1997, the Commission on Human Settlements shall meet annually to ensure a sustained follow-up and accelerated implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at the national, regional and international levels;

25. Further decides that the Commission shall assist the Economic and Social Council in its coordination of reporting on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda by the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall draw upon inputs from other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other sources, as appropriate;

26. Decides that the Commission on Human Settlements, in developing its work programme, shall examine the Habitat Agenda and consider how to integrate in its programme of work the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), and shall also consider how it could further develop its catalytic role in promoting adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;

27. Reaffirms that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements shall be the lead agency and focal point within the United Nations system for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

28. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, before the fifty-third session of the General Assembly, to undertake an assessment of the Centre's functions with a view to its revitalization, and to provide it with adequate human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations so as to enable it to discharge its functions and responsibilities fully and effectively, as elaborated in the Habitat Agenda;

29. Also requests the Secretary-General to include the implementation of the Habitat Agenda in the mandates of the Administrative Committee on Coordination with a view to facilitating an integrated and coordinated implementation of the cross-cutting themes of the global conferences;

30. Further requests the Secretary-General to consult with Governments, the various organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and the various bilateral aid organizations and agencies with a view to promoting an exchange of information among them on the resource requirements for international assistance in the field of adequate shelter for all and human settlements development;

31. Acknowledges the importance of the regional and subregional activities undertaken during the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including the regional strategies, plans and declarations adopted as part of the preparatory process, and invites the regional commissions, other regional and subregional organizations and the regional development banks to examine the results of the Conference within their respective mandates with a view to identifying the actions to be taken, at the regional and subregional levels for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

32. Invites the regional commissions, in cooperation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the regional intergovernmental organizations, and the regional and subregional development banks, to consider convening, on a biennial basis, a meeting at a high political level to review progress achieved towards the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the regional level;

33. Requests all the relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to identify the specific actions that they will undertake, within their mandates, towards the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and invites them to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997, on their specific plans and activities;

34. Invites the Bretton Woods institutions to be actively involved in the implementation and the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), and to enhance their cooperation with the United Nations system for that purpose;

35. Stresses that the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda will require an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally, and in that context calls upon the developed countries to complement the national financial efforts of developing countries on human settlements development and urban management, and intensify their efforts to transfer new and additional resources to the developing countries within the framework of paragraphs 203 and 204 of the Habitat Agenda in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

36. Emphasizes the importance of ensuring the early identification and allocation of financial resources by all members of the international community, including United Nations funds and programmes, the Bretton Woods institutions and regional financial institutions, so as to enable them to fulfil their commitments with regard to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

37. Appeals to all Governments, especially the Governments of developed countries and others in a position to do so, as well as international and regional financial institutions, to contribute generously to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to support the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

38. Calls upon the organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and the regional commissions to provide their full and active support to the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, particularly at the field level, and invites the relevant specialized agencies to do the same;

39. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution;

40. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of subsequent sessions of the General Assembly a standing item entitled "Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 94 (c)

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98, both of 20 December 1995, as well as other relevant international agreements concerning trade, development and interrelated issues,

Emphasizing the importance of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system,

Emphasizing also that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the economic growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment, in particular for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries, and emphasizing further that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for development,

Noting with satisfaction the highly successful outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Midrand, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, and the spirit of genuine partnership and solidarity that emerged therefrom,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

Expressing its deep gratitude to the Government and the people of South Africa for the hospitality extended to the participants in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session,

Welcoming with appreciation the generous offer made by the Government and the people of Thailand to host the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the year 2000,

Expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Singapore for hosting the inaugural Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,

I

1. Endorses the outcome of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which was held in Midrand, South Africa, in April and May 1996, in particular the commitment on "A Partnership for Growth and Development", 1/ and expresses its political will and responsibility with respect to implementing the agreed commitments;

2. Takes note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-third session; 2/

3. Recognizes that "A Partnership for Growth and Development" builds upon the various agreements and conferences that provide an overall policy framework for sustained economic growth and sustainable development to address the challenges of the 1990s, including the Cartagena Commitment; 3/

4. Welcomes the fact that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as part of the United Nations system and a contributor to its revitalization, has adopted far-reaching reforms, as embodied in the "Midrand Declaration and A Partnership for Growth and Development", 4/ adopted by consensus at the ninth session of the Conference, which encompass its programme of work, its intergovernmental machinery and its secretariat, as well as the strengthening of its cooperation with other institutions, especially its complementarity with the World Trade Organization and its cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and relevant regional organizations, thus adapting itself to new economic and institutional modalities created by the process of globalization, the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of

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1/ See A/51/308.

2/ A/51/15 (vol. II).

3/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.II.D.5), part one, sect. A.

4/ A/51/308.

multilateral trade negotiations agreements 5/ and the creation of the World Trade Organization;

5. Also welcomes the importance attached by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session to building a lasting partnership for development between non-governmental actors and the Conference and the initiative taken by the Secretary-General of the Conference to hold meetings with relevant actors to further elaborate concrete steps towards this end;

6. Recognizes the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

7. Also recognizes that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, having a comparative advantage in tackling trade-related development issues, should continue to facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, including by following developments in the international trading system, in particular their implications for developing countries, and identifying new opportunities and challenges arising from the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements;

8. Decides, within this context, to enable the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to implement its programme of work with a focus on the issues of globalization and development, international trade in goods and services and commodity matters, investment, enterprise development and technology, services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency;

9. Invites the President of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its ninth session to consider convening a special high-level review meeting two years prior to the tenth session of the Conference;

II

1. Stresses the urgent need to continue trade liberalization, including liberalization through a substantial reduction of tariff and other barriers to trade, in particular non-tariff barriers, and the elimination of discriminatory and protectionist practices in international trade relations, and to improve access to the markets of all countries, in particular those of the developed countries, so as to generate sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

2. Recognizes that the World Trade Organization provides the framework for an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system and stresses that all members of the World Trade Organization should implement their commitments in respect of the Uruguay Round agreements in a full, timely, faithful and continuous manner and

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5/ Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994 (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

that all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations 6/ should be effectively applied, so as to maximize economic growth and the developmental benefits thereof for all, taking into account specific difficulties and interests of developing countries;

3. Urges Governments and concerned organizations to implement fully and expeditiously the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures in Favour of the Least Developed Countries, as well as to effectively apply the Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Countries, as well as the recommendations adopted at the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and at the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as they relate to trade and trade-related issues of the least developed countries;

4. Emphasizes the importance of the strengthening of, and the attaining of greater universality by, the international trading system and welcomes the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of countries that are not members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and emphasizes the necessity for providing assistance to non-World Trade Organization members so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious manner, and thereby contribute to their rapid and full integration into the multilateral trading system;

5. Also emphasizes the importance of the inaugural Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Singapore, in regard to reviewing the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements and its built-in agenda with a view to helping set the future direction of a rule-based multilateral trading system;

6. Further emphasizes that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element as regards the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round;

7. Deplores any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trading, by resorting to unilateral actions, or to use environmental and social concerns for protectionist purposes;

8. Underscores that the pursuit of the built-in agenda contained in various Uruguay Round agreements, as well as the international community's handling of issues affecting the conduct of international trade relations, should be carried out in a balanced manner, which takes into account the concerns of developing countries;

9. Emphasizes the need for a balanced and integrated approach to environment, trade and development issues, through the examining of trade and environmental issues from a developmental perspective which should be mutually supportive, while stressing that environmental policies and measures with a

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6/ Ibid., vol. I.

potential trade impact should not be used for protectionist purposes and that positive measures such as improved market access, capacity-building, improved access to finance and access to transfer of technology are effective instruments in regard to achieving the objective of sustainable development and in meeting the multilaterally agreed objectives of multilateral environmental agreements;

III

1. Recognizes the important progress made in understanding the relationship between trade and environment in the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization, as well as in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and in the Commission on Sustainable Development, including the recommendations made at its fourth session, and the need to maintain the momentum generated through these deliberations, and requests the Conference, within this context, to examine outstanding issues with a view to recommending future work on trade and environment;

2. Requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to perform its special role in the field of trade and environment, as reaffirmed at the ninth session of the Conference, in particular within the context of the forthcoming special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 7/ and its preparatory process, and stresses the need for the Conference to continue to promote cooperation among the many international organizations and bodies interfacing in the trade and environment debate, including the Commission on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as the World Trade Organization;

3. Also requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to a possible multilateral framework on investment, taking into account the interests of developing countries;

4. Reaffirms the need to implement as a matter of priority the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 8/ taking into account the assessment and recommendations adopted at the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, especially those related to trade and development;

5. Also reaffirms the need to give priority to the problems facing the least developed countries and, in particular, special attention to help enable the least developed countries to maximize their potential opportunities and minimize possible risks arising from the Uruguay Round agreements;

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7/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

8/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

6. Stresses the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States and of landlocked developing States, as well as to recognize that the transit developing countries that provide transit services to landlocked developing countries need adequate assistance in order to maintain and improve their transit infrastructure;

7. Strongly invites preference-giving countries to continue to improve and renew their Generalized System of Preferences schemes in keeping with the post-Uruguay Round trading system and with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially least developed countries, into the international trading system, while avoiding linking eligibility to non-trade considerations and thereby detracting from the original principles of Generalized System of Preferences schemes;

8. Stresses that Governments, as well as international organizations, should extend technical assistance to developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in the international trading system, including assistance in their service sectors to help ensure that they reap the maximum possible benefits from the liberalization of trade in services;

9. Also stresses that the forthcoming South-South conference on finance, trade and investment, to be held in San José, Costa Rica, will provide an opportunity for developing countries to advance initiatives related to "A Partnership for Growth and Development", and invites the international community to provide support to the conference.

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